

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

09/836,222

Applicant(s)

NAKAGAWA, YOSHIHIRO

Examiner

Haresh Patel

Art Unit

2154

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 10/30/06.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 2-7 and 10.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
- ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date 12/13/06
- ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
- ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
- ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

### EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.
2. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Miss Temnit Afework on December 13, 2006.

#### *Amendment to the Claims*

3. Please cancel claim 11.
4. Please amend claims 2 and 10 as below.
5. Claim 2 (currently amended): An individual information managing device connected with a communication line network, for managing individual information, the device comprising:
  - an individual information storing section in which individual information of each individual is registered;
  - a disclosure procedure storing section in which an information disclosure procedure assigned to each individual by each individual is registered, the information disclosure procedure including a plurality of disclosure levels into which the individual information is classified, each disclosure level including disclosure items assigned by the individual and being attached with an authentication method assigned by the individual; and
  - a disclosure procedure executing section that receives a request from other users for disclosing a piece of individual information of a specific individual through the communication

Art Unit: 2154

line network, executes an information disclosure procedure of the specific individual stored in the disclosure procedure storing section, and transmits the piece of individual information of the specific individual to the communication line network toward an information requesting origin when the assigned information disclosure procedure is satisfied; ; and

wherein the individual information storing section is registered with each individual information including a plurality of ranked pieces of information for each individual based on an arrangement that each individual assigns a rank to each of the plurality of ranked pieces of information that constitute the individual information from among a plurality of ranks; ;

the disclosure procedure storing section is registered with an information disclosure procedure according to each rank within each individual assigned by each individual; ; and

the disclosure procedure executing section receives the request for disclosing the corresponding individual information of the specific individual, and executes an information disclosure procedure stored in the disclosure procedure storing section matching an information disclosure procedure corresponding to a rank assigned to the individual information of the specific individual of which disclosure request is received.

6. Claim 10 (currently amended): A method for managing information of users using an information managing device connected with a network, comprising:

storing information of the users in association with information disclosure items, the information disclosure items being correspondingly assigned in accordance with a selection by the users and being provided with authentication methods by the users;

Art Unit: 2154

allowing each of the users to define an information disclosure procedure necessary to access respective information of each of the users, the information disclosure procedure including a plurality of disclosure levels into which respective information of the users is classified; and

transmitting information corresponding to the information disclosure items of a specific user among the users responsive to an input from other users of an information disclosure procedure matching the assigned information disclosure procedure corresponding to the specific user; ; and

~~wherein~~ the information of the users includes a plurality of ranked pieces of information for each of the users based on an arrangement that each of the users assigns a rank to each of the plurality of ranked pieces of information that constitute information of each of the users from among a plurality of ranks; ;

an information disclosure procedure according to each rank assigned by each of the users is registered; ; and

a request is received for disclosing information of said specific user and an information disclosure procedure matching a rank assigned to the information of the specific user is executed.

***Allowable Subject Matter***

7. Claims 2-7 and 10 are allowed.

***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Haresh Patel whose telephone number is (571) 272-3973. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 10:00 am to 8:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nathan Flynn can be reached on (571) 272-3964. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Haresh Patel

December 15, 2006